



By the King.

# A PROCLAMATION

For a General Fast throughout the Realm of *England*.

CHARLES R.



He Kings most Excellent Majesty being necessitated for the just Defence and vindication of his own and Subjects Rights, to continue his Forces at Sea, now in readiness upon a present Expedition, hath resolved, and doth hereby Command a General and Publique Fast to be kept throughout this whole Kingdom, in such manner as is hereafter directed and prescribed; That so both Prince and People may send up their prayers and supplications to Almighty God for imploring his blessing on his Majesties Naval Forces. And for the more decent and uniform performance thereof, His Majesty doth hereby Publish and Declare to all his loving Subjects, and doth straitly Charge and Command, That Thursday next, the last of this instant May, this Fast be Religiously and Solemnly kept and observed in the Cities of London and Westminster, Burrough of Southwark, and other places adjacent: And Thursday the Fourteenth of June next, the like be kept and duly observed through the rest of this whole Kingdom of England, Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed. And for the more orderly solemnizing thereof, His Majesty hath directed, That the Form of Prayers Composed and Published the last year upon the like occasion, be used in all Churches and places at these publique Meetings, and hath given Charge to the Bishops for the dispersing thereof through their several Diocesses in the whole Kingdom. And His Majesty doth expressly Charge and Command, That the said Fasting and Prayers be soberly, reverently, and decently performed by all his loving Subjects, as they tender the favour of Almighty God, and upon pain of such punishments as His Majesty can justly inflict upon all such as contemn or neglect so religious a work.

Given at the Court at Whitehall the 28<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1666. In the Eighteenth year of His Majesties Reign.

God save the King.

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LONDON,

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Excellent Majesty, 1666.